



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Ronald Miller et al.

Assignee: Synopsys, Inc.

Title: DETAILED PLACER FOR OPTIMIZING HIGH DENSITY CELL
PLACEMENT IN A LINEAR RUNTIME

Serial No.: 09/976,960 File Date: October 11, 2001

Examiner: Phallaka Kik Art Unit: 2825

Docket No.: SYN-0155CON1

Date: February 14, 2005

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO THE FIRST OFFICE ACTION

Initial Comments

Claims 58-65, 68-72, and 75-120 are pending in the present application. The oath or declaration contains an improperly referenced domestic priority document. The drawings are objected to because of the character of lines, numbers, and letters.

Claims 78-80, 82-87, 90-99, 101-110, 112-117, 119, and 120 are allowed. Claims 81, 88, 89, 100, 111, and 118 are objected to for various informalities. Claims 58-77 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by US Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0059553 (Eng).

Claims 58, 60, 61, 65, 71, 81, 88, 100, 111, and 118 are amended herein. Claims 66, 67, 73, and 74 are cancelled, thereby rendering the rejection of those claims moot.

SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION DATA SHEET

Applicants greatly appreciate the Examiner's review of the oath/declaration in this case and his suggested means of correcting this document. Applicants have filed herewith an Application Data Sheet in accordance with 37 CFR 1.76 to make proper reference to the claimed domestic priority document. Applicants respectfully request entry of this Application Data Sheet.

SUBMISSION OF FORMAL DRAWINGS

Applicants submit herewith formal drawings Figs. 1-28.
Based on such submission, Applicants request reconsideration and
withdrawal of the objection to the drawings. Applicants
respectfully request entry of such formal drawings.